

Bosses' solutions won't benefit workers ● Why Labour's confusion could save May **Pages 2,3,4&5**
Alex Callinicos on what global capital wants from Brexit **Page 6**

TORIES' EUROPE CRISIS EXPLODES



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TENS OF THOUSANDS ON THE STREETS AGAINST RACISM



UP TO 40,000 people joined the national demonstration against racism and fascism in central London last Saturday. Campaigners are preparing for the battles ahead (see right)

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FAR RIGHT

Protest against Robinson on 1 December

by TOMÁŠ TENGELY-EVANS

NAZI TOMMY Robinson has called on his supporters to take to the streets on Saturday 1 December in London.

Full details of the protest had not emerged as Socialist Worker went to press on Tuesday.

In a video posted on Monday night, Robinson announced he was organising a march against the "Great Brexit Betrayal".

His announcement is another sign of the threat of the resurgent far right in Britain.

It shows Robinson hopes to use the Tory Brexit chaos as a way to grow the far right and build his personal profile.

Stand Up To Racism (SUTR) and Unite Against Fascism (UAF) have called a counter-demonstration.

Robinson's protest comes after a year of big racist street



Racist to the core—Tommy Robinson

mobilisations. They include a march on 9 June when 15,000 supporters of Robinson rampaged through central London.

That was the biggest outdoor mobilisation by fascists in British history. The 1 December march could act as a similar focus for fascists and racists across the whole far right.

In a Facebook post Robinson said, "Time to show these traitors in Westminster that they need to deliver a real Brexit so that we control our laws, borders and money."

Over the last year, Robinson's mobilisations in London have

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BREXIT DEAL OR NO DEAL GET MAY OUT OF HERE

AS SNEERING Tory snakes spit venom at each other in their Brexit jungle millions of working people hope they'll all be voted off.

With the government so divided there's never been a better time to resist—and put the Tories on a diet of grubs.





THE THINGS THEY SAY

'Where are we? To be quite honest...I haven't got the foggiest idea'

The BBC political correspondent **Chris Mason**

'Philip cooked beans on toast—I think I opened the tin'

Theresa May had a rough week

'The very edge of political collapse'

The Financial Times on Britain

'Support a woman doing the best she can'

Spice Girl **Geri Halliwell** backs May

'We are reduced to obeying rules made by other countries who have shown they do not have our best interests at heart'

Northern Ireland minister **Shailesh Vara** resigned over a country being ruled by others without much self-awareness

'Colonial rule by foreign powers and courts'

Boris Johnson on what May's deal means for Britain



When the plot hits your eye like a pizza pie you're a Tory

THE MESS the Tory party has got into over Brexit was still unfolding as **Socialist Worker** went to press.

Theresa May suffered seven resignations in just 24 hours in a backlash against her draft withdrawal agreement for Brexit.

But half of those who clung on are still plotting to meet for pizza to discuss her downfall.

Stephen Barclay, the new Brexit secretary, at least has the advantage that no one has heard of him. He spent a gap year at the Sandhurst military academy and in the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers before Cambridge.

After leaving Cambridge in 1994 Barclay joined the Conservative Party and began training as a lawyer, working at the insurance company Axa, the Financial Services Authority and Barclays.

Environment Secretary Michael Gove had turned down the post of Brexit secretary.

Gove is an expert self-publicis—dragging out his response to May's offer of the post for maximum media coverage.

He's also an Islamophobe obsessed with rooting out "extremism". Gove wrote a book after the 7/7 bombings calling for an end to "appeasement" of Islamic fundamentalism. His one achievement was to scupper Boris Johnson's last attempt at the Tory leadership.

Liam Fox is a crook. He was forced to resign as defence secretary in 2011 after allowing his friend Adam Werritty

to take on an unofficial and undeclared role as his adviser.

Werritty travelled the world bankrolled by a £147,000 slush fund called Pargav. This was paid for by donors including a corporate intelligence company and a property investor. He is another key plotter in the cabinet.

Chris Grayling once accused the Socialist Workers Party of hacking his emails to stop the Tories' workfare plans.

He is for Christians being allowed to bar LGBT+ people from B&Bs. While a long term opponent of public spending, he is happy to get his London flat paid for while living 17 miles from Westminster. Having ground the rail network to a halt he is now trying to do the same to his own government.

Tory MP Geoffrey Cox is one of the few loyal allies of Theresa May. But even he has been tipped to become a Tory leader by the Sun newspaper. Cox is Attorney General and a rather well off lawyer.

In 2016 he received 11 payments totalling about £400,000 for his work as a barrister, which he failed to declare on the Register of Members' Interest. He was a member of the Standards Committee at the time.

Cox was so engrossed in setting up chambers in Mauritius and Dubai that he did not get around to counting his money. Then "to my dismay, I became fully aware of the scale of my oversight".

He did find time to submit claims for

a 49p bottle of milk, £2 worth of tea bags and £4.99 for "weedkiller for space in front of the constituency office".

Jacob Rees-Mogg is a complete banker

JACOB Rees-Mogg is more than just a reactionary bigot. He had a successful career as an investment banker.

After graduating from the University of Oxford in 1991, he worked for the Rothschild investment bank before moving to Hong Kong in 1993 to join Lloyd George Management.

Rees-Mogg left to set up his own fund management firm, Somerset Capital Management. He continues to receive income in his capacity as a partner.

With his wife Helena Anne Beatrix Wentworth Fitzwilliam de Chair, who will inherit a vast sum from her family, Rees-Mogg is worth more

than £100 million.

Somerset Capital Management is managed via subsidiaries in the tax havens of the Cayman Islands and Singapore.

The multi-millionaire told the Sydney Morning Herald this week, "Nobody can afford to live in London. I'm not sure I can! I wish I were joking."

His property portfolio includes a £5 million townhouse in Westminster.

Liar Amber Rudd back to attack poor

DESPERATE Theresa May brought disgraced Amber Rudd back into her Cabinet.

The former home secretary filled the work and pensions role left vacant by quitter Esther McVey.

Rudd quit as home secretary just seven months ago over her handling of the Windrush scandal.

She had lied to parliament saying there were no anti-immigration targets.

Now she'll be in charge of Universal Credit. Her rehabilitation comes after a report last week coincidentally concluded

that she had been let down by her officials.

Rudd enjoyed a privileged upbringing and attended Cheltenham Ladies' College.

She was an investment banker at JP Morgan before moving into venture capital.

Rudd once put in a claim of 27p for a 0.6 mile car journey.



FAULTY FIRM

No. 5378

Odey European Inc fund Hedge fund

● Investment tycoon Crispin Odey has been betting against the pound and stocks exposed to the British economy.

● "I have had a good day. Bad days tend to be good days for us." Odey said last week

● Odey European Inc fund had risen about 50 percent this year, gaining in value by about £200 million

Good riddance to Esther McVey

ONE PIECE of good news was the departure of Esther McVey.

The former work and pensions secretary should of course be sanctioned for making herself unavailable for work.

As a welfare minister McVey helped ram through many of the Tories' nastiest attacks, including the bedroom tax.

As minister for the disabled in 2013 she attacked Disability Living Allowance, arguing that some claimants didn't really need the benefit because "bodies heal". In 2013 she said that food bank use was "positive".

She unfortunately returned to parliament and oversaw lying about Univesal Credit.

Boris Johnson's scrap cannons

A LEGACY of his time as mayor shows the genius of Boris Johnson

Three unusable water cannon bought by Johnson when he was mayor of London have been sold for scrap for £11,000—a loss of more than £300,000.

The fee recoups just 3.4 percent of the £322,834.71 spent on the vehicles since 2014.

The 25-year-old vehicles cost £85,022 in 2014, but required expensive modification to make them roadworthy.

This included £32,000 to comply with the city's low emission zone.

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GRAB THIS CHANCE TO PUSH THE TORIES OUT

Socialist Worker WHAT WE THINK

THERESA MAY survived the first blasts of the Brexit crisis storm. But she still seems headed for disaster.

Battered by resignations and Tory revolts, the end of her rule has never appeared closer.

As Socialist Worker went to press on Tuesday, an attempt by Tory MPs to secure a no confidence vote in May seemed to have fizzled out.

But her problems are far deeper than a revolt by the supporters of Jacob Rees-Mogg and Boris Johnson.

At present there is no way that the Brexit deal will pass through parliament.

The bigots of the DUP that sustain May's rule seem implacably opposed to the agreement, and enough Tories say they will vote against it to ensure its defeat.

A handful of Labour MPs might be persuaded to put big business first and support the Tories, but it won't be enough.

In response, May is encouraging the blackmail and bullying from big business that is usually reserved for undermining left wing governments.

Warnings

Dire warnings of imminent disaster will be backed up by pressure on the pound, falls in share prices, promised withdrawal of investment and so on.

If this doesn't work in the run-up to the parliamentary vote, it will be redoubled when the deal is defeated.

According to the Sunday Times newspaper, "No 10's plan is to encourage a crash in financial markets after losing a first vote in the hope that this stampedes MPs into voting for it the second time."

Deliberate economic damage is being encouraged in order to protect



PROTESTING AGAINST the Tories last year

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

May Out, Tories Out, General Election Now!

BRISTOL—Friday 23 November, 5pm-7pm, City Centre Fountains, opposite the Hippodrome bit.ly/demoBristol

LEEDS—Saturday 24 November, 12 noon-3pm, Briggate near Body Shop bit.ly/demoLeeds

SWANSEA—Saturday 24 November, 11.30am to 12.45pm, Big Screen, Castle Square bit.ly/demoSwansea

profits and break the resistance of a section of the Tory party. That's how big May's crisis has become.

It's urgent that the left stops spectating and commenting, and instead seeks to shape what happens. This

involves clear politics and action.

The politics begins with demanding, "May Out, Tories Out, General Election Now". We have to seize the opportunity to bring down the Tories.

More broadly we have to reject both

staying in the racist and neoliberal EU, and all the Tory and bosses' visions of Brexit.

Our alternative is to leave the EU and simultaneously begin transforming the whole basis of a society based on capitalist policies and priorities.

We say no to the single market and yes to freedom of movement for people.

But the same package has to include tax the rich, scrap Universal Credit, end privatisation, nationalise key services under democratic control, emergency action to halt climate change and other similar demands.

Class

Such policies could break free from the suffocating narrowness of a debate dominated by two ruling class positions.

Socialists have to say what should happen now about the Brexit crisis.

They also need to link that argument to a fight to change a society in which, according to a United Nations official last week, 14 million people in Britain live in poverty.

Four million of these are more than 50 percent below the poverty line, and 1.5 million are destitute, unable to afford basic essentials.

At this time of crisis we need mobilisation in the streets and workplaces—marches, mass meetings and rallies. It's great to see some local attempts at this (see box, left).

But there is a great absence where the national unions and Labour should be organising.

The political vacuum this creates gives fascist Tommy Robinson more of a chance to put thousands on the streets, perhaps in alliance with others on the right.

If Jeremy Corbyn and the unions had called a demonstration demanding May goes and that there is a working class solution to the Brexit crisis, Robinson's voice would be massively weakened.

No to racism and fascism, no to austerity, drive the Tories out.



>>>from page one

pulled together those in Ukip, former English Defence League (EDL) members and the Democratic Football Lads Alliance (DFLA).

Robinson's arrest in May for contempt of court provided an opportunity for the EDL founder to mobilise large numbers on the streets.

And other racists and fascists are increasingly willing to work with him.

Robinson claimed that he's been talking with Ukip leader Gerard Batten about mobilising for the march.

The "Free Tommy" protests have also attracted white supremacists, such as supporters of Generation Identity, and Steve Bannon, former adviser to Donald Trump.

Manoeuvring

Robinson's manoeuvring underlines that the most important question now is not whether people voted to Leave or Remain.

The real test is whether activists are out on the streets to oppose the far right.

Tens of thousands joined the national demonstration against fascism and racism in London last Saturday (see pages 10&11).

It brought together people from across the left, labour and trade union movements and showed the possibility of building a movement that can push the right back.

Anti-fascists and anti-racists must take to the streets in large numbers on 1 December.

Socialist Worker Appeal to raise £125,000

Socialist Worker is the voice of people fighting for a better world. It dispels the racist scapegoating and anti-working class rhetoric of the mainstream press.

We publish stories of the strikes, protests and pickets that can beat back the bosses and bigots. We are asking everyone who enjoys Socialist Worker to donate as much as they can and help fund the resistance.

I SUPPORT THE APPEAL BECAUSE...

Socialist Worker is a paper that's about the people and our everyday struggles.

Its reporting on our dispute has been consistent, representative and supportive.

It's my weekly paper. Every



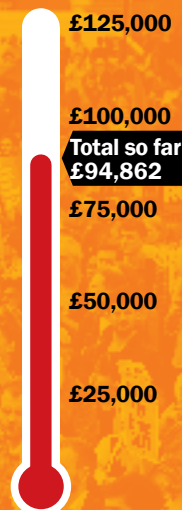
page has a story (and there's no adverts), let's keep it that way.

Please support the Socialist Worker Appeal.

Lynn Marie O'Hara
Glasgow Unison equal pay
striker

To donate go to socialistworker.co.uk/appeal

Call 020 7840 5620 or send a cheque, payable to 'SW Appeal' to PO Box 74955, London E16 9EJ



**Oppose
Tommy
Robinson—
Unite against
racism and
fascism**

**Saturday 1 December,
12 noon, central London.
Hosted by Stand Up
To Racism and Unite
Against Fascism**

bit.ly/OpposeRobinson1Dec
standuptoracism.org.uk
uaf.org.uk

Why is there a crisis over Brexit now?

Rows over a new Brexit bill have intensified divisions among the Tories and the bosses. None of them want a way forward that will benefit working class people

BANKERS AND bosses are piling pressure on Tory MPs to vote for Theresa May's Brexit deal.

Carolyn Fairbairn, CBI director general, spoke to the annual conference of the bosses' organisation on Monday. "The prime minister's agreement is not perfect," she said. "It is a compromise, but it is hard-won progress."

Big business breathed a sigh of relief when the European Union (EU) Withdrawal Agreement (see right) was published last week.

The deal includes a transition period that would bind Britain to EU single market rules until 2021.

These rules include regulations on competition and state aid that protect bosses' profits.

But now bosses fear a no-deal Brexit is becoming a real possibility.

Analysts from City Group bank said the political situation amounted to a "full-blown constitutional crisis".

The share prices of the Royal Bank of Scotland and Lloyds fell by more than 10 percent in a day and a half.

Europe has split the Tories for decades.

There were different positions over joining the Common Market in the 1970s, and over the Maastricht Treaty in the 1990s.

Now Brexit has brought serious fissures between the Tory party and business to the fore.

One banker said, "Politics is always going to be in the driving seat in this process, but now it is swerving all over the road."

Bankers and bosses want to remain in the neoliberal EU's single market and customs union because it protects their profits.

For instance, EU rules wouldn't allow a Labour government to nationalise the whole rail industry and run it as a public service.

Instead it would only be allowed to nationalise individual rail firms—as long as they continued to compete alongside other ones.

EU rules also block policies that

are seen to give state-owned companies an advantage over private ones. And the European Court of Justice (ECJ) has the power to levy financial penalties against governments and overturn laws.

These rules would apply during the transition period and the ECJ would still have power to intervene against policies the EU's rulers and bosses didn't like.

Disputes

Any disputes would be overseen by a "Joint Committee" of British and EU officials during the transition period. And the EU would still have some power afterwards.

Bosses want assurances that Britain will keep free market rules and access to European markets on its statute books after a transition period.

And large sections of business also fear Brexit will make it more difficult to hire migrant labour.

Yet May has also tried to win over racist, right wing voters by promising to dump freedom of movement for EU migrants. This has split the Tory cabinet and backbenches.

Vile reactionaries such as Jacob

Rees-Mogg and Boris Johnson are jockeying for position by screaming betrayal when May has leaned towards the demands of big business.

May has also been hemmed in by EU rulers who are determined to make an example of countries that try to leave their club.

The Tory deal has not resolved the divisions within the Tory party or the wider crisis facing the ruling class that the Leave vote unleashed.

Bosses will now try to force MPs into looking after their interests, but they still see the deal as a compromise.

Some US banks are pushing for Britain to remain in the European Economic Area, which would mean keeping all of the single market's free market rules.

And right wing Tory backbenchers will use the opportunity to argue that May is betraying Brexit.

The solution isn't to line up behind any of these rival sections of the ruling class.

The answer is to use their crisis to fight for a Brexit in the interests of workers and migrants—and to force the Tories out.



THERESA MAY spoke to the bosses' CBI this week to get support

Labour's confusion over

THE LABOUR Party is struggling to unite around a single line from which to attack the Tories. It risks giving Theresa May the chance to struggle on.

Until very recently the leadership was clearly for defeating May's Brexit deal in parliament, and then pushing for a general election.

Jeremy Corbyn-supporter's group Momentum emailed its members last Friday asking them to lobby their Labour MPs to back this. There was even a petition—and a call to contact Labour MPs who hadn't "already committed to voting with Jeremy".

"May cannot get her deal through parliament. This means she has only one option—to target Labour MPs and persuade them to save her government by voting for her botched Tory Brexit," it said.

"As socialists, we have only one option—vote down the deal, push for a general election and elect a socialist Labour government."

Yet Corbyn seems to be edging away from that position. Labour did not call for a general election on the day that Theresa May took her Brexit deal to parliament. Jeremy Corbyn ended his

speech merely by saying, "The government must now withdraw this half-baked deal."

And in a 20-minute long interview on Sky News on Sunday, he did not explicitly call for a general election.

Instead he repeatedly called on the government to go back to the EU and renegotiate the deal.

It was only when asked if he still wanted a general election that he said, "I think the country needs stability. It needs an opportunity to have a say—who it wants to conduct negotiations with the European Union and who it wants to deal with the chronic social issues facing Britain."

Corbyn's problem is that there are far too many right wing Labour MPs—and union leaders—who don't want a general election. They would prefer a "People's Vote"—

effectively a second referendum, with the hope of stopping Brexit.

These include Labour's shadow Brexit secretary Keir Starmer, who is gradually pulling Labour's position towards backing a new referendum.

He fought at Labour's conference in September to make sure its policy kept the option of backing a second referendum

Europe could save May

open. He then said Remain must be one of the options.

Starmer is backed by right wing Labour MPs who want to remain in the EU because they are ideologically committed to its neoliberal, racist policies.

They like the single market rules that enforce privatisation and restrict trade union rights.

So Corbyn attacked the deal because it "hard-wired" restrictions on state aid and included "no guarantees for workers' rights".

But right wing MPs criticised it for failing to protect the interests of business and financial services.

Phil Wilson MP complained that it "does nothing to lift the uncertainty that has caused such alarm to business and employers".

Chuka Umuenna said it "doesn't include the final details of our future trading relationship with the European Union". Neither called for a general election. Both wanted a "People's Vote."

Several union leaders also argue for a "People's Vote" because they think getting a good deal for business will protect jobs.

It's a mistake to think that what's good for business is good

What's the deal with the Tories' doomed Withdrawal Agreement?

What is the European Union Withdrawal Agreement?

THE TORY Brexit deal seeks to protect business and attack migrants.

The EU Withdrawal Agreement, published last Wednesday, says Britain will leave the EU in March 2019 with a 21-month transition period.

During the transition Britain and the EU will be part of a "single customs territory". This means Britain would keep many EU free market rules.

What happens after the transition is less clear.

The agreement includes the option of a one-off extension of the transition if Britain and the EU still haven't reached a trade deal. It says this could last until "31 December 20xx".

It makes clear that both the Tories and the EU hope to "build on the single customs territory".

They want a future trade deal to include a "level playing field" in areas such as banking, transport and public services.

This means keeping those sectors open to multinational profit-making by keeping corporate taxes low and stopping governments from improving workplace rights or nationalising industries.

be able to apply for settled status.

Those who have lived in Britain for less than five years would have to apply for pre-settled status and then apply again for settled status.

And migrants will have to pay to apply for residency.

The EU does not guarantee freedom of movement even within its borders. Member states can restrict citizens' movement or residence on vague grounds of "public policy, public security or public health".

The withdrawal agreement would give the Tories the right to withdraw settled status on these grounds.

The agreement also says "economically inactive" people would have to show "evidence that they have sufficient resources for themselves and their family members not to become a burden".

And it calls on them to prove that they have comprehensive sickness insurance.

Pressure has already forced the Tories to pledge that "as a matter of domestic policy" migrants will not have to have insurance. What's in the agreement isn't a done deal and it's possible to fight to defend migrants' rights.

best endeavours to conclude an agreement which supersedes this protocol in whole or in part" by December 2020.

This means little would change during the transition period.

A "backstop" would kick in if there is no new agreement. This would see Northern Ireland remain subject to EU single market rules.

While bosses in Northern Ireland would have unfettered access to the British market, there would be some restrictions on British goods going the other way.

The Tory right is incensed that the backstop threatens the "integrity of the UK" by risking a border between Britain and the island of Ireland.

And the DUP has made clear that it will vote against May's deal.

Socialist Worker stands for a Brexit for Ireland and a referendum across the whole island on unification.



What does the agreement mean for the rights of migrants?

THE DEAL is a serious attack on the rights of EU migrant workers.

Theresa May made clear that "freedom of movement will end once and for all" following the transition period.

Up to three million EU migrants in Britain will have to apply to stay in Britain.

Those who can prove they have lived in Britain for five years would



What would the deal mean for Northern Ireland? And why is there a row?

THE TORIES want to avoid a "hard border" between Ireland and Northern Ireland after Britain leaves the EU.

The EU and Irish governments don't want checkpoints, customs checks and other physical barriers.

But EU proposals to keep Northern Ireland inside its single market and customs unions after Brexit went too far for the Tories. And Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) MPs, who Theresa May relies on in parliament, would never accept it.

So the Tory deal tries to put off the problem. It promises that the EU and Britain "shall use their



What's the alternative?

THE CHOICES aren't just a Tory no deal Brexit, remaining inside the neoliberal, racist EU or having a second referendum. These are all bad options.

One Tory planning document for a no deal Brexit made clear that control of "anticompetitive subsidies" would be used in "all sectors". Another said the Tories would allow EU banks to operate in Britain without restrictions for at least three years.

Labour wants to maintain access to the single market and accepts that freedom of movement will end.

And most union leaders have fallen in behind business's calls to stay in the single market because they say it will "protect jobs".

But the single market protects business interests, not workers.

The best response to the Tory deal is to take to the streets to drive out May and their whole regime.

And as part of that the left should put forward an alternative vision of Brexit that says, "Yes to freedom of movement—no to the single market".

Michael Gove and Boris Johnson—just two of Theresa May's opponents

ANALYSIS

ALEX CALLINICOS



What global capital wants out of Brexit

BREXIT HAS become, as numerous commentators have pointed out, a historic crisis of the British state. In determining the future global position of British capitalism, it is comparable to the repeal of the Corn Laws in the 1840s and the two world wars.

But how does it affect global capitalism? Britain still has the sixth biggest economy in the world, and one that is peculiarly internationalised. After the destruction of much basic industry under Margaret Thatcher in the 1980s, the British economy revived as the European base of many transnational corporations and banks.

Some left Remainers argue that international capitalism wants Brexit. This is nonsense. All the major capitalist states opposed Brexit during the referendum campaign. Big banks and corporations operate here precisely to get easy access to the European Union (EU) market.

Even successful British capitalists who voted to Leave aren't putting their money where their mouth is.

So the best option for international capitalism would be for Britain to stay in the EU. After initially rebuffing big business, Theresa May shifted her position. She has negotiated a withdrawal agreement designed to preserve as many economic links with the EU as possible—international capitalism's second best.

What about the EU? It is a cartel of national capitalisms that reflects the interests of the most powerful member states, above all Germany and France. Brussels has taken a tough negotiating position over Brexit, for three reasons.

First, the remaining EU-27 states want to make an example of Britain to discourage other attempts at secession.

Secondly, the EU has been extremely successful at binding states seeking access to its huge market to its system of regulation. A former EU trade official told the Financial Times newspaper that association agreements between the EU and neighbouring states "are designed to turn EU regional partners into regulatory satellites".

May's exit treaty is closely modelled on the agreement between the EU and Ukraine. This incorporated the latter into the "European regulatory space" at the price of a civil war.

Undercut

Of course, Britain is a much bigger fish than Ukraine. This leads to a third element in the EU stance, which is inter-imperialist competition among leading European states. France and the Netherlands, for example, are worried that Britain outside the EU will undercut them by offering international investors less regulation and lower taxes.

Hence the very tough provisions in the withdrawal agreement seeking to perpetuate a "level playing field" between Britain and EU member states. The Financial Times noted, "The most significant arrangements relate to state aid. Britain must establish an 'independent' authority to police public subsidies. But the UK authority must take 'utmost account' of Commission advice on all decisions, and can be overruled by Brussels or the ECJ [European Court of Justice]." This would have the additional advantage of tying the hands of a Labour government.

The consensus among commentators, pro- or anti-Brexit, is that the EU-27 were largely successful in imposing on a divided Tory government with a weak bargaining hand an agreement that subordinates post-Brexit Britain to the EU. But, from the perspective of international capitalism, Brussels may have overplayed its hand.

The deal is so bad that it may well be rejected by the House of Commons. The default result would be Britain leaving the EU on 29 March without an agreement. This is the nightmare option for international capitalism. It would disrupt supply chains connecting British plants to the continent and damage trading partners such as Germany and the Netherlands.

It might further shake already jittery financial markets. The City of London remains the world's most important international financial centre.

Will the increasing probability of a no-deal Brexit put sufficient internal and external pressure on the EU-27 for them to make further concessions to Britain?

Brussels has bungled most major decisions in the past decade, so I wouldn't hold my breath. But maybe May and even Jeremy Corbyn are gambling on this possibility.



CAMPAIGNERS MADE their points to Philip Alston (below) during his tour

PICTURE: @ALSTON_UNSR ON TWITTER

Austerity destroys lives for ideological reasons, says UN

by SADIE ROBINSON

A REPORT released last week laid bare the brutal system that the Tories and our rulers defend.

United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteur Philip Alston met with people affected by Tory austerity and cuts during a two-week tour of Britain. In delivering his preliminary findings on Friday he said that the attacks are being waged for ideological reasons.

The first thing that Department for Work and Pensions secretary Amber Rudd did after being appointed to the post last week was attack the report.

She complained about its "political" language and claimed this "discredited" the report.

Denial

As Alston pointed out, Tory ministers are in a "state of denial" over their attacks on benefits.

"The ministers told me things are going well," said Alston. "They don't see any big problems."

"It's not the story I heard in my travels. What I saw is a lot of misery. A lot of people feel the system is failing them. They feel the system is there just to punish them."

Alston added, "There haven't been a great many savings from what I can see.

Instead the motivation is very clearly an ideological one."

Alston said the Tories' hated Universal Credit (UC) is "driven by the desire to get across the simple set of messages. The state does not have your back any longer. You are on your own."

And this meant the system functioned to be "as unwelcoming as possible".

"People who need benefits should be reminded constantly that they are lucky to get anything," he said.

"Sanctions should be painful."

Alston said Tory policies were part of "dismantling a broader social safety net".

"I met the leader of Newcastle council," said Alston. "He tells me we've been reduced to emergency service provision."

Treasury

"I meet the economic assistant to the treasury, they say, 'It's fine. These councils have got a lot of money'."

He added, "The harshness and worst aspects of these policies could be changed overnight and for very little money."

The report is a damning indictment of life for working class people in Tory Britain.

It came after research published on Thursday of last week showed that UC has caused some claimants to consider killing themselves.

Public health researchers commissioned by Gateshead council said UC is actively creating poverty and is not fit for purpose.

One claimant said, "When you feel like, 'I can't feed myself, I can't pay my electric bill, I can't pay my rent,' all you can feel is the world collapsing around you."

"It does a lot of damage. There were points where I did think about ending my life."

Join the national day of action against Universal Credit on Saturday 1 December, hosted by the Unite union

Universal Credit chaos

CLAIMANTS forced onto Universal Credit (UC) face a nightmare system of bureaucracy, confusion, delays, sanctions and debt.

Thomas was recently told to apply for UC after being made redundant.

He told Socialist Worker, "There's an interminable going round in circles. You're told to ring a number, then you get a message

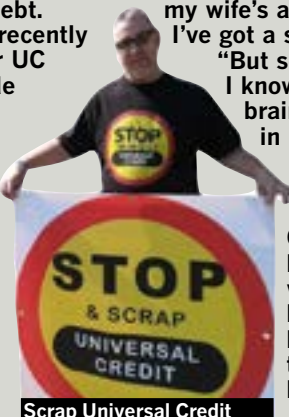
saying it's changed.

"The system seems to force you to the back of the queue at all times."

He added, I'm lucky as my wife's a teacher, so I've got a safety net.

"But somebody I know has a brain tumour in remission.

"They're saying you're OK to work but no one will employ him because he has a tumour and has fits."



Scrap Universal Credit

New climate change movement mobilises thousands in London

The Extinction Rebellion group is demanding rapid action on climate change and sees bold direct action, including getting arrested, as a way of achieving its goals, reports **Sarah Bates**

UP TO 6,000 climate change activists blocked five central London bridges for hours last Saturday, causing chaos for the cops.

There were 82 arrests as activists staged sit-ins at Lambeth, Westminster, Blackfriars, Waterloo and Southwark bridges.

A rally was then held in Parliament Square, where three trees were planted.

It was part of a “Rebellion Day” called by new climate change group Extinction Rebellion, which is demanding drastic and rapid action on climate change.

It followed a week of action that saw activists glue themselves to the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and protest outside the Brazilian embassy.

Further “swarming” protests were set for this week and another event for this Saturday.

Dozens of police surrounded the hundreds of activists on each bridge and threatened to arrest them for obstructing a highway.

Greater

Green Party member Mary argued that climate change poses a greater threat than any other political problem. She told Socialist Worker she joined the Greens five years ago as she thought “the two big parties are irrelevant, the real issue is climate change”.

A full coach of protesters came from the Preston New Road fracking site in Lancashire.

James Hayhurst travelled from Clitheroe in Lancashire to be on Lambeth bridge. He said the Tories are overriding local decisions over fracking companies being granted licences. “Our democracy is being



CLIMATE ACTIVISTS block Westminster Bridge on Saturday

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

eroded,” he said. “Oil and gas companies are paying governments, and the police are just a pawn in the game.”

“The oil and gas companies are blinded by their greed, and the rich will destroy our species.”

Many banners and protesters linked climate change to energy firms. Others urged swift action on climate change. “There’s no planet B,” read one.

And many protesters said they felt urgent action is needed.

“It feels like an absolute priority” said Leonie from Hastings.

“I’ve always done demonstrations, but none quite so active. Climate change is terrifying. I’ve got children and something has to be done and

it has to be from the bottom up.”

There was a broad range of ideas about the most effective way to tackle ecological crisis.

Geoff had travelled from Brighton to take part in the Rebellion. He said the Tory government needed to take “drastic action, not the small steps they have taken.”

Affected

And he saw the fight against climate chaos as a global one.

“In England, we’ll be slow to be affected, but some countries will be much quicker, like Bangladesh and the Pacific islands,” he said. “This will create millions of refugees and displaced people. It can still be avoided to some degree.”

Climate change lawyer Farhana Yamin, told the sit-in on Westminster bridge that she was “ready to break the law because I know 800 climate laws around the world but none add up to climate justice”.

“It’s too small a response to have a meeting or to have a gathering in

five years and recalibrate targets,” said Yamin.

She echoed many speeches that saw an end to fossil fuels as central to avoiding climate catastrophe.

“It’s doable, we can keep temperatures to 1.5 degrees. What we need to do is get rid of fossil fuels. We need more and more people to come out on the streets,” she said.

Extinction Rebellion taps into a deep anger at climate chaos.

It’s a welcome step that ordinary people are responding to alarming warnings from climate scientists with collective action.

Direct action raises the profile of the fight against climate change, but it can’t stop there.

There needs to be hundreds of thousands more on the streets.

●Extinction Rebellion Day 2—Saturday 24 November, 10am, Parliament Square, London.

●Campaign Against Climate Change protest Together for Climate Justice, Saturday 1 December.

Go to bit.ly/TogetherforJustice

SEXISM

Lords save Lester from suspension

LORD LESTER, a former Liberal Democrat peer, has avoided immediate suspension from parliament over allegations of sexual harassment.

He’s accused by human rights campaigner Jasvinder Sanghera of sexual harassment taking place 12 years ago.

Lester denies all allegations.

A report by the Privileges and Conduct Committee—the body that oversees Lords’ behaviour—recommended last week that Lester be suspended until 2022.

It would have been the longest suspension of a peer or MP since the Second World War.

But members of the House of Lords voted by 101 to 78 to reject the suspension and refer the case back to the committee.

Sanghera, who waived her right to anonymity, worked with Lester to make forced marriage a civil offence.

After she missed her train home, Lester offered her a bed at his home.

She told The Times newspaper that Lester offered to “make her a baroness within a year” if she had sex with him.

“He placed his arms around me and further up my body. I forced myself away and he chased me around the kitchen until I asked him to stop,” she said. “If I’d said anything, who would believe me?”

The Lords commissioner for standards said Lester should be expelled, which he appealed.

A second investigation upheld the original findings, but changed the recommendation to a suspension.

Sanghera said the vote to overturn Lester’s suspension was a reflection of “what I can only describe as the old boy network” and made her feel “victims all over again”.

More Labour peers than Tories voted for the motion moved by Pannick, including leading critic of Jeremy Corbyn Lord Adonis.



An activist is arrested during the protests



Rising costs fuel anger on French highways

But the 'yellow vests' movement pulls in different directions, argues **Charlie Kimber**

OVER 2,000 protests took place across France last weekend against rising fuel costs.

One protester was killed after being hit by a car and hundreds were injured. The interior ministry said 287,000 people took part.

Police arrested over 50 people as the "yellow vests"—named after the hi-vis jackets people are required to keep in their cars—blocked motorways and roundabouts.

Police used tear gas as protesters slowed traffic trying to enter the Mont Blanc tunnel leading to Italy. Reinforcements were deployed to stop angry demonstrators reaching the presidential Elysee Palace. Further protests have been called for this Saturday.

President Emmanuel Macron is under huge pressure over fuel prices and many other issues. Last Saturday a poll showed the percentage of people who disapprove of him reached an all-time high for any president—73 percent.

The yellow vest protests are highly contradictory. The central focus initially was "green" taxes and rising costs for small businesses.

Early backing came from the mainstream right and the fascists of Marine Le Pen's Rassemblement National (National Rally—the renamed National Front).

It was denounced by the unions.

Reactionary

The revolutionary socialist NPA party warned against the influence of the racists and strengthening reactionary big business opposition to the government.

But it also said, "Even if the right and the extreme right wanted to be the spokespersons of this anger, it is a class policy, a policy at the service of the rich, which has been denounced today."

"The anger expressed today is that of the working class, men and women forced to take their vehicles to work."

"The yellow vests mixed their anger against fuel price increases with the decline in pensions, and

BACK STORY

Over 2,000 protests swept through the highways of France

- People are angry because fuel prices are going up
- The movement was backed at first by the mainstream right and fascists
- Unions denounced it
- But it has become a focus for wider working class anger against Emmanuel Macron

multiple attacks led by Macron for over a year."

NPA spokesperson Philippe Poutou tweeted, "Are the yellow vests achieving where the union movement did not succeed?"

"It's a surprising movement which clearly expresses determination and anger against the government."

"A general mobilisation [against Macron] becomes possible."

There is a battle to see who will gain from Macron's demise. The threat of an increase in nationalism and racism is very clear.

Le Pen's party heads recent polls for next year's European elections—although only on 22 percent because politics is so fragmented.

But there is also a high level of struggle.

This week saw national strikes by health workers and job centre workers on Tuesday. A national day of action against racism, with significant union support, was set for Wednesday.

Last week saw a very successful national teachers' strike over job cuts, the narrowing of education and the increasing disciplinary measures used against pupils.

The left and the unions need to show a clear way forward to beat Macron and offer positive change for working class people.



On other pages...

Powerful protest against racism
>>Pages 10&11

"YELLOW VESTS" blocking access to highways over fuel prices

Binyamin Netanyahu could be toppled

by NICK CLARK

ISRAEL'S PRIME minister Binyamin Netanyahu could be forced into an early election as demands for a new war on Palestinians grow louder.

Netanyahu was forced to insist there would be no early election after Avigdor Lieberman resigned as defence minister over a ceasefire in the Palestinian Gaza Strip.

The ceasefire was declared on Wednesday of last week following a large-scale Israeli assault on Gaza in which 14 Palestinians were killed. Under Netanyahu's leadership, Israeli forces have also killed more than

200 Palestinians since the start of mass protests in March.

Yet politicians even further to the right than Netanyahu have threatened to pull out of the fragile coalition that keeps him in government.

Hundreds of people have also protested demanding "stronger action" on Palestinians in Gaza.

Israeli politics is deeply reactionary. It reflects a society founded on the ethnic cleansing of Arabs and sustained by oppression of Palestinians.

Netanyahu won the last election in 2015 with a racist message. Now he could be brought down by Israelis who want a government even more violent against Palestinians.

Israeli prime minister is under pressure

FIGURE IT OUT

9 seconds. That's the length of time it takes Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos to earn the median company salary

1.7 billion dollars. The amount Amazon received in government funding to base a new office in New York

1 helipad. As part of the deal, Bezos asked for a helipad

TECHNOLOGY firms in the US are assisting Donald Trump's racist assault on migrants.

They are getting their hands on part of the Department for Homeland Security's (DHS) £340 million budget for data management.

A new report commissioned by organisations including the Immigrant Defense

Project found that firms such as Amazon are at the centre of making profit from human suffering.

Amazon Web Services hosts the DHS's cloud web service.

This includes a software programme used by 5,100 local law enforcement agencies, which Immigration and Customs Enforcement

now has access to.

One firm is even developing biometric software to track migrants on journeys through Mexico towards the US.

Some tech companies have promoted themselves as being central to the resistance to Donald Trump. This report reveals they are actually profiting from his racist attacks.

Anti-racist protest was a success

THE DEMONSTRATION last Saturday was a fantastic success, in composition as well as size.

It encompassed the struggle against fascism as well as against racism, an achievement for the organisers. Racism and fascism feed off each other.

It also included an array of prominent union leaders. The role of socialists in the event was clear to all. This is what a successful united front looks like and we surely need more of them.

I spoke to two of the "extinction rebels" as they left their successful blockade of the five London bridges. They were very interested in the anti-racist demonstration. Socialists need "movementists" as much as vice versa.

Dermot Smyth
Sheffield

Link up the struggles

IT WAS great to see London filled with demonstrations last weekend against two of the most toxic features of capitalism—racism and environmental destruction.

Trade unions should have a bigger presence on climate change demonstrations.

We should link up the demonstrations in the future. We are all fighting for a better world and against its cruelty whether fascism, racism or the destruction of our planet

Heather Booker
Swansea



ILLUSTRATION: TIM SANDERS

Home Office racism did not stop with Windrush scandal

IN THE wake of the Windrush scandal the Home Office continue to threaten Commonwealth citizens with deportation.

Chimezie Emeronye is a Nigerian woman who came to Britain on a visa to study health psychology at university.

While here she met a young Czech, Pavel Gabko, with whom she had a relationship and they tried to get married.

But the Home Office claimed she had intended to take part in a "sham" marriage ceremony based on evidence provided by vicars who said they "did not speak the same language".

Pavel had claimed he did not speak English. Chimezie said this

was untrue and she wasn't allowed to produce witnesses who could disprove this.

As a result, she was convicted and sent to Lower Newton prison then later to the infamous Yarl's Wood immigration detention centre.

Since this, Chimezie met and married Robert, a British citizen from Sunderland.

They have two children, one already at school, and will soon celebrate seven years of marriage.

But the Home Office is still trying to deport her.

The Home Office has issued 16 flight tickets to Nigeria, and the family have spent thousands trying to stop the deportation. And a

string of government mistakes are making this even harder.

The Home Office had incorrectly identified her as a single woman even though they have a marriage certificate proving otherwise.

Nick Brown MP pointed out these inconsistencies. He was told the Home Office's objections to her residence were "procedurally correct", yet they have never even attempted to disprove the validity of their marriage.

Her family threatens to be ripped apart by racist Tory policies and a heartless Home Office that is determined to defend immigration law at all costs.

Jim Hutchinson
Newcastle

Let's ditch the not so bonny Prince Charles

THE HOUSE of Lords' decision to dedicate a debate to Prince Charles on his 70th birthday is insulting.

Is it not enough that the Royal Family are a drain on resources that are desperately needed by the NHS and those who are most affected by austerity?

Charles gained nothing but an ego boost from this debate.

But those who have real issues missed out yet again on having their voices

listened to. While peers receive an allowance to fawn over him, the Tories are tearing themselves apart. No doubt they'll try and pass the cost onto the working class.

They need to stick to their supposed job of holding the government accountable for the havoc they wreak.

It's time to dismantle a system that values an obsolete symbol of power over people's needs.

Gabby Thorpe
Norwich

Justice system racist from top to bottom

TWO NEWS pieces in the last week showed racism pervades every level of the British justice system.

One was about cops lobbying for more stop and search powers.

There are four searches for every 1,000 white people, compared with 29 searches for every 1,000 black people.

This is despite the fact that 86 percent of the population is white, while just 3.3 percent is black.

This large difference shows cops are disproportionately targeting black people. It means that

black people are more likely to end up in prison.

In 2009 13.7 percent of the prison population was black, compared to just 2.7 percent of the population in general. The other story was there are no African-Caribbean members on the 240-person Parole Board in Britain, and just 13 are from ethnic minorities.

So police are more likely to search black people, who are more likely to end up in prison.

Then their fitness to be released is judged by

hundreds of whites.

While having black people on the Parole Board is no solution, this is another example of institutional racism.

Harjeevan Gill
East London

Just a thought...

Why protest at Bannon?

WHY BOTHER only protesting against this Steve Bannon fellow?

Most English people have been racist anyway since the empire days and little has changed.

So why only bother with Bannon and not several of the Tory MPs?

Ed Ray
On Twitter

Republican sleaze peddler

GOOD TO see that the Evangelical Christian followers of Trump take their moral standards so seriously.

The party in Nevada gave 100 percent support to self-styled Republican pimp, 72 year old strip club boss Dennis Hof.

Their votes enabled him to win an election to Nevada's 36th assembly district over his Democrat Party rival, a woman teacher.

Unfortunately for them, he died at one of his "love ranches" a month before the election!

It's not surprising that the number of women Republican reps is in serious decline.

John Murphy
Stockport

BBC backs up racism

TO STOP racism you need to promote equal opportunities in the work place.

For example, look at the BBC. The workforce there is not representative of ethnic minorities.

Andres Viveros
On Facebook

Don't goggle at Google strike

JOHN SHEMELD is wrong to argue the Google strikes show that "you do not need formal organisation to take action" (Socialist Worker, 14 November).

Workers at Google should be congratulated for standing up to their sexist bosses.

But it would be a mistake to look to this strike as a model. "Formal organisations", trade unions, have millions of members. Socialists must organise within them.

Sam Lorde
Penrith

POWERFUL PROTEST AGAINST RACISM

A demonstration in London last Saturday organised by Stand Up To Racism and Unite Against Fascism, with the support of many unions, showed strong resistance to the rise of the right. Pictures: Guy Smallman

A demonstration joined by tens of thousands of people in London last Saturday was a powerful show of unity against the growing threat of the far right and racism.

Organisers Stand Up To Racism (SUTR) and Unite Against Fascism (UAF) said that 40,000 people were on the protest.

The march came after serious advances by far right and racist politicians and parties. Maria Morris came as part of the Brazilians Against Fascism group. “I’m from Brazil where Jair Bolsonaro has just been elected,” she told Socialist Worker.

“He’s religious fundamentalist, he’s racist, he’s homophobic—he is our Trump.

“We need to fight these people everywhere.”

Nara, another Brazilian, added, “Left wing leaders and others are being persecuted, not only in Brazil but across the whole of Latin America.”

In Britain groups from across the fascist and racist right are trying to regroup around Nazi Tommy Robinson. The “Free Tommy” movement organised the biggest outdoor fascist mobilisation in British history in July, but it has faced opposition on the streets.

Marchers chanted, “Tommy Robinson, go to hell—take your Nazi mates as well,” as they made their way towards Whitehall.

Labour member Tom told Socialist Worker, “It’s important to smash the fascists before they get bigger.



MARIA (top, left) was part of a delegation of Brazilian anti-fascists. **Ruby** (top, right) came with a large contingent from Newham, east London. **Cardiff Labour councillor Ali Ahmed** (above, left) blames austerity for the rise in racism. **Becky** (above, right) says we need to resist now, not wait for an election



“Protests help to make people aware of the situation and the dangers.”

The growth of far right groups is being fuelled by racism against Muslims, migrants and refugees pushed by politicians and the media. As Ruby from Newham in east London told Socialist Worker, “The media tend to blame migrants for economic failings and many people believe it.”

She added, “Education is key to stopping racism.”

Loud chants of, “Say it loud, say it clear—refugees are welcome here!” rang out as the demonstration made its way down Regent Street.

Pretended

Danny from Newham, east London, said she came to show solidarity with Muslims facing Islamophobia. “A lot of my friends have suffered racism,” she told Socialist Worker. “One was taking her children to school and someone pretended to point a gun at them.

“I’m also here to support migrants—it’s a big part of my family.”

Two Romani protesters said they were there “to protest against racism towards Romani and gypsy people”.

There was a sizeable presence from the Labour Party, Momentum and the trade unions. Workers brought union banners from the UCU, Unite, FBU, NUJ Unison, NEU and Equity unions, while huge balloons from the CWU, UCU and Unison towered over the march.

Riccardo La Torre, regional secretary of the Eastern region of the Fire Brigades Union told Socialist Worker, “We’ve been building anti-racist activity in the union.



Shoppers and tourists stopped as the front of the march headed down Regent St

“We want to carry on a proud tradition of standing up to ideologies that harm working people.

“It’s part of standing up for the communities we serve against the crap espoused by the likes of Tommy Robinson.

“They say services are over-stretched and wages are low because of migrants. We’ve been on enough picket lines to know that it isn’t a Polish plumber or local Muslims that are responsible—it’s Tory policies.

“Allowing them to divide us with racism distracts us from the real issues.

“Tommy Robinson claims to speak for working class people. But after Grenfell he blamed migrants for the fire.

“It showed his true colours.” Nazir Ahmed, Labour deputy chair of Newham council, told Socialist Worker that 56 councillors in the east London borough had signed a petition against racism.

“We should be united in raising our voices against antisemitism, Islamophobia and all racism,” he said.

“Things like this protest will have an impact as it shows we can unite and have common ground.”

Chants of, “Oh, Jeremy Corbyn” broke out as the crowds assembled. Ali Ahmed, a Labour councillor from Cardiff, told Socialist Worker that the far right and racism are growing “because of the Tories and austerity”.

“People will see what we’re about and that we’re the majority with this demonstration.”

He added, “The first thing we need to do is elect a Labour government that will make sure there are more jobs and housing.”

Condemned

Others saw a need to fight now over racism, not pin our hopes for change on an election. Becky, a student from York, told Socialist Worker, “The far right has been building under the radar.

“We need to do something sooner rather than later,” she said, urging people not to “just wait for the next government to make changes”.

Shadow home secretary Diane Abbott sent a message of solidarity to the rally on Whitehall.

It said, “The far right is on the rise in a way we thought was condemned to the dustbin of history.

“We need a movement that will challenge Donald Trump and Steve Bannon.”

And in response to Bannon saying he wears his racism as a “badge of honour,” she said, “Everyone should wear a Stand Up To Racism badge. We have the only badge of honour.”



Students formed a lively block on the demonstration (left, main). There were also groups from Brazilian anti-fascists protesting against their hard right president Jair Bolsonaro (left), and from Love Music Hate Racism



Oxford banishes Bannon

ANTI-RACISTS last week took on far right ideologue Steve Bannon’s attempts to whip up racism.

Up to 1,000 people protested against Donald Trump’s former adviser outside the Oxford University Union last Friday. He was forced to speak to a half-empty room.

And over 100 supporters of Stand Up To Racism (SUTR) protested in Edinburgh on Wednesday afternoon where Bannon was speaking.

Bannon was the chief counsellor to Donald Trump, who was forced to sack him after the fascist murder at Charlottesville.

He is now trying to coordinate fascist and far right parties across Europe.

Pressure from anti-racists forced the Oxford Union university debating society to withdraw an invitation to Alice Weidel.

She is the parliamentary leader of the far right Alternative for Germany (AfD) party.

Several leaders of trade unions also spoke at the rally.

Unite general secretary Len McCluskey said, “To Stephen Yaxley-Lennon [Tommy Robinson] I say this. “You do not stand for my working class which has always rejected and fought against the racist filth that you spout.

“If you come for our Muslim brothers and sisters you come for all of us and we will resist you.”

The march was an important step forward in the fight against racism and the far right threat from Tommy Robinson and his supporters.

Weyman Bennett, co-convenor of SUTR said, “We have a job to do. We stopped Tommy Robinson last time and we will stop him again.

“They have Bolsonaro, and Trump and the AfD in Germany. But we’ve got the numbers and determination. “We will have unity and solidarity to beat them.”

The demonstration has to be followed by more action, organisation of SUTR at local level and in workplaces, and resistance to Robinson and his crew whenever they seek to organise or march.

We can’t rely on Labour, which has a terrible record of fighting racism both in office and often in opposition.

As capitalism and racism are intertwined, the fight against the system must have anti-racism at its centre.

And to tear out the roots of racism we need to get rid of capitalism.

For Socialist Worker’s full coverage on the day go to bit.ly/N17demoSW And for a gallery of pictures by Guy Smallman go to bit.ly/N17gallery



Oxford protests against Steve Bannon last week

The Oxford Union then invited Bannon to speak.

Rosita Ellis, chair of Unison south east region black members’ group, said, “We face a rising tide of racism. The Oxford Union is making a bad situation worse by inviting racists like Steve Bannon to speak.

Populist

“Everyone should protest against this invitation”.

There are growing links between the racist populist and fascist parties in Britain and Europe.

Ian Mckendrick from Oxford SUTR said, “Bannon is attempting to build an Islamophobic international of far-right groups.

“And he is looking to fascist Tommy Robinson here in Britain as a key figure for his movement.”

At the Edinburgh protest Tara McCarthy, the City of Edinburgh Unison union international officer, slammed the BBC and European Broadcasting Union for inviting Bannon to speak at the News Xchange journalism conference.

“They are seriously misguided by suggesting that his appearance offers an opportunity to challenge his views,” she said.

“They have provided a platform to a vicious individual whose views will regrettably resonate with a tiny minority who subscribe to his race-hate.”

Important dates for anti-racists

Sat 24 November
St Andrew’s Day anti-racist demonstration called by the Scottish TUC. Assemble 10.30am, Glasgow Green, Glasgow G40 1BA

Sat 8 and Sun 9 December
Refugee solidarity convoy to Calais

Sat 8 December
Stand Up To Racism mobilising meeting for national demo in March 2019

Sun 27 January 2019
Holocaust Memorial Day

Sat 16 February
Stand Up To Racism Student conference

Sat 23 February
Stand Up To Racism Trade Union Conference

Sat 16 March
UN anti-racism day protests in Britain and internationally For details go to standupforracism.org.uk

WHAT WE STAND FOR

These are the core politics of the Socialist Workers Party.

INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS ACTION

Under capitalism workers' labour creates all profit. A socialist society can only be constructed when the working class seizes control of the means of production and democratically plans how they are used.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The present system cannot be patched up or reformed as the established Labour and trade union leaders say.

It has to be overthrown. Capitalism systematically degrades the natural world. Ending environmental crisis means creating a new society.

THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

The structures of the present parliament, army, police and judiciary cannot be taken over and used by the working class. They grew up under capitalism and are designed to protect the ruling class against the workers.

The working class needs an entirely different kind of state—a workers' state based upon councils of workers' delegates and a workers' militia.

At most parliamentary activity can be used to make propaganda against the present system.

Only the mass action of the workers themselves can destroy the system.

INTERNATIONALISM

The struggle for socialism is part of a worldwide struggle. We campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries.

We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against those from other countries.

We oppose racism and imperialism. We oppose all immigration controls.

We support the right of black people and other oppressed groups to organise their own defence. We support all genuine national liberation movements.

The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country.

In Russia the result was state capitalism, not socialism. In Eastern Europe and China a similar system was later established by Stalinist parties.

We support the struggle of workers in these countries against both private and state capitalism.

We are for real social, economic and political equality of women. We are for an end to all forms of discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

We defend the right of believers to practise their religion without state interference.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism the most militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party.

Such a party can only be built by activity in the mass organisations of the working class.

We have to prove in practice to other workers that reformist leaders and reformist ideas are opposed to their own interests. We have to build a rank and file movement within the unions.

To join us, turn to page 16 or go to www.swp.org.uk or phone 020 7840 5602 for more information

{ SOCIALIST WORKER }
PUBLIC MEETINGS

LONDON: SOUTH
Crime, class and capitalism
—why are young people
killing each other?

Wed 28 Nov, 7pm,
Karibu Centre,
7 Gresham Rd,
SW9 7PH

LONDON: WALTHAM FOREST
Antisemitism—the far
right, Zionism and the left

Wed 5 Dec, 7.30pm,
William Morris
Community Centre,
6-8 Greenleaf Rd,
Walthamstow, E17 6QQ

OXFORD

#MeToo—sexism
and the system

Thu 29 Nov, 7pm,
Oxford Town Hall,
St Aldate's,
OX1 1BX

{ SOCIALIST WORKER }
BRANCH MEETINGS

Weekly meetings to discuss
political issues and our local
interventions. All welcome.

ABERDEEN

Marx@200—the
revolutionary ideas
of Karl Marx

Mon 26 Nov, 6pm,
Belmont Cinema Cafe,
49 Belmont St,
AB10 1JS

BARNLEY

The armistice—revolts
and mutinies of the
First World War

Thu 29 Nov, 7pm,
YMCA,
Blucher St, S70 1AP

BIRMINGHAM

Peterloo 1819—the fight
for democracy and freedom

Wed 28 Nov, 7pm,
Birmingham LGBT Centre,
38/40 Holloway Circus,
B1 1EQ

BRADFORD

Why does capitalism
love plastic?

Thu 29 Nov, 7pm,
Glyde House,
Little Horton Ln,
BD5 0BQ

BURNLEY AND PENDLE

Kristallnacht—a
warning from history

Wed 28 Nov, 7.30pm,
Red Triangle Cafe,
160 St James's St,
BB11 1NR

CARDIFF

Peterloo 1819—the fight
for democracy and freedom

Wed 28 Nov, 7.30pm,
Cathays Community Centre,
Cathays Terrace,
CF24 4HX

COLCHESTER

Brazil, Bolsonaro and
the rise of the right

Thu 29 Nov, 8pm,
Hythe Community Centre,
1 Ventura Drive,
CO1 2FG



A PROTEST against the Tories after the general election

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

The Brexit crisis—how can we get rid of the Tories?

COVENTRY

A hidden history of the Asian
working class in Britain

Wed 28 Nov, 7.30pm,
The Golden Cross,
8 Hay Ln,
CV1 5RF

DERBY

The lost revolution—
Germany 1918-1923

Thu 6 Dec, 7pm,
West End Community Centre,
Mackworth Rd (next
to Britannia Mill),
DE22 3BL

DUNDEE

Anti-racism,
internationalism and
the working class

Wed 28 Nov, 7.30pm,
Dundee Voluntary Action,
10 Constitution Rd,
DD1 1LL

EXETER

Rosa Luxemburg and the
German Revolution

Wed 5 Dec, 7pm,
The Exeter Peace Shop,
31 New Bridge St,
EX4 3AH

HUDDERSFIELD

How revolution ended
the First World War

Wed 28 Nov,
6.30pm,
Brian Jackson House,
2 New North Parade,
HD1 5JP

KENT

The US elections—the
beginning of the
end for Trump?

Thu 29 Nov, 7.30pm,
Nucleus Arts Centre
(Conference Room),
272 High St,
Chatham,
ME4 4BP

LEEDS: CITY CENTRE

Gimme shelter—how can we
solve the housing crisis?

Thu 29 Nov, 7pm,
The Swarthmore
Education Centre,
2-7 Woodhouse Sq,
LS3 1AD

LONDON: CENTRAL

Palestine, antisemitism and
the struggle for freedom

Wed 28 Nov, 6.30pm,
Room 215, UCL Foster
Court Building,
Malet Pl,
WC1E 6BT

LONDON: NEWHAM

Marxism and religion

Wed 12 Dec, 7pm,
Stratford Advice Arcade,
107-109 The Grove,
E15 1HP

LONDON: SOUTH EAST

What the crack? Capitalism
and climate change

Wed 28 Nov, 7.30pm,
Deptford Lounge,
9 Giffin St, SE8 4RH

LONDON: TOWER HAMLETS

How revolution ended
the First World War

Wed 5 Dec, 7pm,
Epainos Church,
Lichfield Rd,
E3 5AT

LONDON: WALTHAMSTOW

Brazil, Bolsonaro and
the rise of the right

Wed 28 Nov, 7.30pm,
William Morris
Community Centre,
6-8 Greenleaf Rd,
E17 6QQ

LONDON: WEST & NORTH WEST

Politics of the mind—
Marxism and mental distress

Thu 29 Nov, 7.30pm,
Woodlane Community Centre,
78 White City Cl,
Shepherd's Bush,
W12 7DZ

MANCHESTER: CENTRAL

Is human nature a
barrier to socialism?

Wed 5 Dec, 7pm,
Friends Meeting House,
6 Mount St,
M2 5NS

MILTON KEYNES

After Grenfell—how can we
get secure homes for all?

Mon 26 Nov, 7.30pm,
Trinity Centre,
Fishermead Boulevard,
Milton Keynes,
MK6 2LA

NOTTINGHAM

#MeToo—sexism
and the system

Wed 5 Dec, 7.30pm,
International
Community Centre,
61b Mansfield Rd,
NG1 3FN

PORTSMOUTH

Peterloo 1819—the fight
for democracy and freedom

Wed 28 Nov, 7.30pm,
Somerstown
Community Centre,
River's St,
PO5 4EZ

SCARBOROUGH

Brazil, Bolsonaro and
the rise of the right

Wed 5 Dec, 7.30pm,
Tap and Spile,
94 Falsgrave Rd,
YO12 5AZ

SHEFFIELD: CITY CENTRE

Agony in Yemen—blood
on Saudi Arabia's hands

Thu 29 Nov, 7pm,
Central United
Reformed Church,
60 Norfolk St (near
Crucible Theatre),
S1 2JB

SOUTHAMPTON

Fascism in Italy

Wed 28 Nov, 7.30pm,
High Street Cafe,
153 High St,
Southampton, SO14 2BT

BRISTOL

Wed 28 Nov, 7.30pm,
YHA,
14 Narrow Quay,
BS1 4QA

DONCASTER

Tue 27 Nov,
7.30pm,
Goose,
53-54 Hall Gate,
Doncaster,
DN1 3PB

EDINBURGH

Wed 28 Nov,
7.30pm,
Friends Meeting House,
7 Victoria St,
Edinburgh,
EH1 2JL

LANCASTER AND
MORECAMBE

Thu 29 Nov,
7pm,
Friends Meeting House,
Meeting House Lane,
Lancaster,
LA1 1TX

NORWICH

Thu 29 Nov,
7.30pm,
Vauxhall Centre,
Johnson Place,
Norwich,
NR2 2SA

SWANSEA

The US elections—the
beginning of the
end for Trump?

Thu 29 Nov, 7.30pm,
Brynmill Community Centre,
St Albans Rd,
SA2 0BP

WOLVERHAMPTON
AND WALSALL

A rebel's guide to Frida Kahlo

Wed 28 Nov, 7.30pm,
Wild Bytes Cafe,
Darlington St,
WV1 4HW

NATIONAL

Socialism 101: ideas
to change the world

Please note the date of this
event has been changed to
Sunday 2 December
because of the protest
against Tommy Robinson.
Go to bit.ly/101socialism

{ MOVEMENT
EVENTS }

DORSET SOCIALISTS

Can Labour beat capitalism?

Sat 1 Dec, 1.30pm,
Colliton Club,
Colliton Park, Dorchester
DT1 1XJ

NATIONAL

Together for Climate Justice

Sat 1 Dec, 12 noon,
Central London.
Called by the Campaign
against Climate Change
bit.ly/ClimateDemo

NATIONAL

Safe, Secure Homes for All

Sat 8 Dec,
NEU, Hamilton House,
Mabledon Pl,
London WC1H 9BD.
Called by Axe the Housing
Act—secure homes for all
bit.ly/SafeSecureHomes

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Captivating film exposes the complexity of 'mundane' life

A story based around a writing group in a small French town reflects on a radical history of struggle and the threat of racism, says **Sadie Robinson**

THE WORKSHOP is a captivating film that makes you think. It is based around a small writing workshop in La Ciotat, southern France, mainly made up of young people.

The diverse backgrounds and the different political ideas in the group make for some tense and angry discussions.

The aim is for the workshop to write a thriller together. Their discussions about the plot, the setting and motives end up bringing the history of their town to life.

There's a suggestion that the novel could be set outside of France. As Antoine, the main character, says, "You write a novel to escape your shit life. Why set it here?"

The story is told in a laid back way and isn't overly dramatic. This is a good thing.

It feels like we are just getting a snapshot into people's everyday lives and the contradictory pressures they come under. It makes the story feel more real.

The film shows up how mundane and stultifying life can seem. Some parts are supposed to be scary and they are. But far more disturbing is the ease with which right wing ideas can take hold of people.

Trapped

Antoine comes across as a lonely man who isn't getting a lot from life and feels trapped in a small town he is utterly bored with.

He also comes across as a racist who loves to taunt Muslim and black members of the group.

Ideas about race, class and belonging flow through the film.

The group discusses setting the



THE WORKSHOP—a snapshot of everyday life in a French town

story in a shipyard, bringing up the town's radical past. Old footage shows the country's shipyards as vibrant places with workers streaming out. Then they are shown rusted and abandoned.

But for their research the students visit one yard that was saved after people fought back. "They tied a manager to a crane," explains one.

The worker taking them around says, "We fought back and we won." The shipyard stayed productive, and

now makes fancy yachts.

The strength of the film is that it makes you unsure of how to judge Antoine. On one hand, his repeated racist goading of people is abhorrent. And at times he seems to lack all empathy.

But we also see him as vulnerable, under the mask he puts on in public.

There's a sense that he could go either way—become a hardened far right thug, or find something worthwhile in life.

There is humour in the film—such as the bizarre competitions between the students over who is "more French". It's good to find out how the different characters and their talents develop.

Even when it's slow paced, it still makes you want to keep watching. A lot of the scenery is beautiful.

And in the end, Antoine gets his freedom.

Directed by Laurent Cantet. On limited release

Philippines political travel book is a punishing read

BOOK

THE REALM OF THE PUNISHER

By Tom Sykes
Signal Books, £12.99

IS PHILIPPINES president Rodrigo Duterte—"The Punisher"—part of the global rise of the racist right? Or is his rule a distinct, grotesque weirdness all of its own?

Tom Sykes' new political travel book explores some of the contradictions that led to Duterte's election victory.

However, it is light on

explanations.

Sykes points out that Duterte has torn up the political rule book in the Philippines.

In a country with deep Catholic roots, criticising the Pope should presumably be avoided.

Duterte called him a "son of a bitch", and attacked god as "stupid".

His support went up. Yet nothing in the book explains this.

People looking for engaging travel writing should also go elsewhere.

Sykes veers from anecdote to anecdote with



Rodrigo Duterte—"The Punisher" (right)

little context to bridge between them. Stitched on to the anecdotes is political analysis which is loose at best.

In among the seemingly random anecdotes about drinking with minor royals or going to shopping centres are interesting observations about the modern Philippines.

But it's difficult to know what Sykes thinks, other than he is at pains to appear right-on.

Perhaps political travel writing isn't more common for a reason.

Alistair Farrow

THEATRE

HADESTOWN

National Theatre,
Upper Ground, South Bank,
London SE1 9PX
Until 26 January

THIS STAGE musical adaptation of Anais Mitchell's 2016 folk opera concept album tells a version of the ancient Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice.

It sees Orpheus travel to the underworld to rescue his fiancée Eurydice, but is transported to the era of the Great Depression.

The show takes an old story and brings out elements that hint at problems people face today.

Greek myth in modern setting

FILM

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WIND

Directed by Orson Welles.
On Netflix and on limited release in cinemas now

ORSON WELLES' last film was finally released this year, after he began filming it in 1970.

John Huston stars as the famous film-maker who returns after years in self-exile to make a comeback movie.

It's a satire on the film industry and Hollywood.

TOP 5 BOOKS

Bestsellers at Bookmarks, the socialist Bookshop

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Rob Ferguson
- 2 **The Left case Against the EU**
Costas Lapavistas
- 3 **Rise Like Lions**
Mark Krantz
- 4 **Harlem 69—The Future of Soul**
Stuart Cosgrove
- 5 **The Man who Shook his Fist at the Tsar**
Jack Robertson

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“WE ARE in the business of attempting to milk a vulture.” That’s how writer Eleanor Penny described Labour’s task of transforming the state as she introduced an event with Labour shadow chancellor John McDonnell last week.

Along with socialist thinkers Hilary Wainwright and Leo Panitch, they tried to explain how a Labour government will work “in and against the state”.

In other words, how it will try to use the state to introduce socialism—knowing that all of the state’s institutions will be set against it.

As Penny implied, transforming the state is an impossible task. But for over a century, that’s just what socialists who look to parliament to change society have tried to do.

“The state is a tool of power,” Penny said. “A case has been made by successive generations of leftists that this power must be wrested from the hands of the ruling classes and given to the working classes.

“This tool is by no means neutral. Because a state designed for the protection of capital’s interests will not easily be turned to the protection of the interests of the working classes.”

Every part of the state is geared towards running capitalism and helping companies and capitalists to keep making money in Britain.

Crucially, that means facilitating the exploitation of workers that is at the heart of the system.

Laws

A vast tangle of laws legitimise capitalists’ right to own property and make profits—while the police, the army and the secret service protect them.

These bodies are filled with unelected officials who share broadly the same interests as the bankers who’ll try to break a left wing government.

While financiers blackmail Labour with investment strikes and market crashes, top civil servants, generals, cops and spies will sabotage the government from inside the state.

The Labour left’s thinkers insist they know all this. As Wainwright said, “Jeremy Corbyn and John McDonnell understand the non-neutral nature of the state.”

So the job now is to build “the kind of counter-power that will be necessary in the face of the City, the power of the CBI, the power of the state, the power of media and their

“The state is filled with the unelected who share a common interest

Hilary Wainwright hopes that striking fast food workers can be part of monitoring and reshaping the state

allies within the Parliamentary Labour Party and sometimes within the unions.”

What does that “counter-power” look like?

For McDonnell it means filling state institutions with people from campaigns and “communities,” and putting workers on nationalised company boards.

For Wainwright it means building “networks of resistance” outside parliament that can support those reforms and “monitor” the state and its officials.

As examples, she pointed to recent action by fast food workers, and the Focus E15 housing campaign in Newham, east London.

During that campaign, activists discovered that Newham council spent more paying interest on a loan from Barclays bank than it got through council tax.

Wainwright says this is a model example of how “militant action around basic needs,” combined with activists’ research “exposes the mere exercise of financial power”.

Meanwhile supporting “precarious workers” would mean that “when trade union rights are being legislated for and supported by the Labour government there’s already the mobilisation that can make those rights real and can enforce them from below.”

Those are both good things.

But once a campaign exposes “financial power” what does it do next?

Confrontation

And when enforcing Labour’s reforms means confrontation with the full might of big business and the state, what do workers have to do beat them?

Winning that confrontation has to be at the centre of any socialist strategy. But the tactic of being “in and against the state” isn’t about that. The central idea isn’t defeating the state but seizing hold of it and using it to build a socialist society.

The problem is that this makes controlling the state and keeping it intact more important than everything else.

That leads Labour—even under a left wing leadership—to make any number of compromises and concessions just to hold on to office. In opposition it means seeking unity with the Labour right to win an election.

CAN LABOUR TAME THE STATE?

How should a Corbyn government deal with enemies that have deep roots in the establishment, asks Nick Clark

Can a Labour government ever control the top army generals?

In government it means trying to placate those forces that will try to destroy it.

Transforming Britain “for the many, not the few” becomes governing in the interest of “the nation,” including the demands of big business. Struggle outside of parliament becomes subordinated to maintaining “our government” inside parliament.

We can already see this happening.

Under pressure from right wing MPs and trade union leaders, Jeremy Corbyn dropped his fight to turn Labour into a party that will scrap Trident nuclear weapons.

For MPs, holding on to weapons that could destroy the world shows a commitment to protecting the “national security” of the state. For union

leaders, that commitment also means protecting jobs.

Meanwhile McDonnell talks to left wing audiences about using the state to transfer power to ordinary people. But as business leaders openly fret about what they can do to stop a Corbyn government, McDonnell reassures them, “There’s nothing up my sleeve.

“If you don’t like the policies we’re using to achieve our objectives, if there’s another way of achieving those objectives, let me know and we’ll discuss them.”

The Labour left has never found a way around this.

Panitch warned last week that Labour “is far from the kind of organisation that is capable of seeing through a socialist strategy.” He pointed to the

experiences of Syriza in Greece and the Workers Party in Brazil as warnings of what can happen to left wing parties.

Blackmail

Panitch said the big difficulty Labour faces is figuring out how to manage the system while also radically transforming it. “We don’t know how to do that,” he said.

Asked what Labour could do in the face of economic blackmail, and how to transform the financial system into a “public utility” he replied, “We don’t have a clue.”

The only strategy he could see was a programme of “gradual reforms building towards socialism” such as moving parts of the Bank of England to Birmingham. But “all of that

falls short of what could possibly be called a socialist strategy.”

Only after “two, three or four” terms of a Labour government could it think about implementing socialism.

Elsewhere, in the most recent issue of Red Pepper magazine, Panitch writes that the task of transforming the state will be “complex, uncertain, crisis-ridden, with repeated interruptions.”

His answer is that Labour has to start with smaller reforms to local government which “may in turn spur developments at the higher levels of state power”.

The problem with this isn’t simply that it involves asking people to lower their sights. It means finding ways to dodge or avoid direct confrontation with the forces that will try to

crush a Labour government.

That’s the same mistake made by Syriza, the Workers Party, and all other attempts to bring socialism through parliament.

In the magazine Panitch says, “Reform versus revolution is not a useful way to frame the dilemmas that socialists must actually confront.”

But almost 150 years ago the revolutionary Karl Marx found the answer to the problem Panitch is still grappling with.

Movement

After the French state destroyed the uprising that made the Paris Commune of 1871 by massacring the ordinary people who took part in it, Marx wrote, “The working class cannot simply lay hold of the ready-made state machinery and wield it for its own purposes.”

He meant that workers couldn’t transform the state, but had to replace it with a different form of state power altogether.

The Russian Revolution of 1917 came closest to showing what this might look like. Socialism wasn’t built through the existing state but through a network of workers’ and soldiers’ councils.

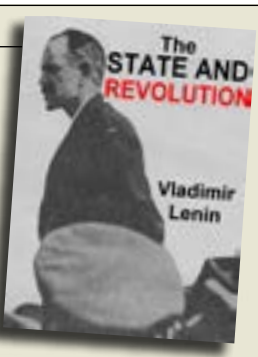
Fighting for socialism today means a different kind of movement—and a different kind of party—to the one Panitch, Wainwright and Penny talk about.

It has to look to the power of resistance by ordinary people outside parliament, in their workplaces and in the streets—not to support politicians to transform the state, but to defeat it altogether.

READ MORE

- **Why we need to smash the state**
Socialist Worker article bit.ly/smashstate
- **State and Revolution**
by V.I. Lenin £3.99
- **State in capitalist society**
by Ralph Miliband £16.95

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How we can fight for a carbon-free society

Sarah Bates argues that a carbon free economy will mean a fundamental reorganisation of society

A REPORT released last week was yet another reminder of the scale of the climate crisis—and our ruler’s deadly inaction.

The Brown to Green report, produced by the Climate Transparency research group, assesses action on climate change by the G20 group of richest countries.

The report shows that, since the Paris Agreements in December 2015, 15 nations reported a rise in carbon emissions. Some 82 percent of energy in these countries still comes from coal, oil and gas.

Increasingly alarming research from climate scientists is contributing to a renewed resistance on the streets.

Brown to Green was released just days before last Saturday’s Extinction Rebellion protest. One of the direct action group’s central demands is a “rapid total decarbonisation of the economy”. At the campaign’s launch in October, activists said they wanted a carbon-free Britain by 2025.

Reduced

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report released last month said carbon dioxide emissions must be reduced by 50 percent in the next twelve years.

It also said that the Earth’s temperature must not be allowed to rise above 1.5 degrees higher than pre-industrial levels.

Global temperature rises are largely caused by increasing levels of carbon in the atmosphere.

We are currently on track for a 3.2 degree increase. If this happens sea levels will rise, species will become extinct and coastal areas will be decimated.

The rich and powerful have an interest in delaying action on carbon emissions as much as possible.

Because competition is built into capitalist society, bosses

MORE ONLINE



● More on the fight to limit the effects of climate change at bit.ly/ClimateTag

resist changes that could harm their profits. An energy fat cat that decided they wanted to stop polluting the atmosphere and prevent their firms

from generating dangerous emissions would quickly be replaced by shareholders.

But ordinary people can stop the people at the top from wrecking the planet.

Protests are an important part of that. We can also fight to get the issue taken up by trade unions, some of which argue for nuclear power to replace carbon-based power.

Their argument focuses on protecting their members’ jobs building and running nuclear power stations, for instance.

But work which builds

“Capitalism is a blinkered system based on short-term profits

renewable energy sources should be the priority.

Extreme weather will become more likely, leading to more droughts and flooding, which in turn will affect agriculture. But it’s only a small number of firms responsible for polluting our planet.

The Carbon Disclosure Project said that 71 percent of greenhouse gas emissions between 1988 and 2013 have been produced by just 100 companies.

Reorganisation

Oil companies aren’t looking to curb their emissions, they’re fighting to maintain their profits at all costs.

A “decarbonised economy” would mean more than flipping a switch—it will need a massive reorganisation of infrastructure.

There would need to be a nationalised transport industry providing properly run services so people don’t have to rely on fossil fuel-powered transport.

There would need to be a programme of building energy efficient homes, and retrofitting houses with insulation.

Capitalism is a blinkered system based on short-term profits.

A more democratic society could end the chaos which could destroy life as we know it—just so a few billionaires can stay rich.

The problem has never been more urgent, and will require all of us to fight for a future that doesn’t cost the Earth.

Grenfell boss stalled vital information

by ALISTAIR FARROW

THE GRENFELL Tower Inquiry heard shocking revelations last week during evidence from Robert Black, chief executive of the Kensington and Chelsea Tenant Management Organisation (TMO).

Black revealed a catalogue of errors on his part, and on the part of the TMO, which was responsible for managing the building.

He was confronted with evidence showing that the most up to date list of vulnerable people living in Grenfell Tower was dated February 2002.

That means changes made to the building at the time of its refurbishment in 2016 were not included in the report.

Cladding

Flammable cladding was installed on the outside of the tower and access routes changed.

Giving evidence, former TMO head of housing Teresa Brown claimed the faulty document was not circulated to other agencies on the night of the fire by TMO



MARCHING IN Norwood, south London, last week for victims of the fire

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

staff. Black delayed in passing accurate information to other agencies.

A local authority liaison officer requested a list of known residents of the tower, but this was delayed.

Black had received the list at 5.24am. He did not forward it until 7.56am.

Brown's evidence showed how important that lack

of information was. She described being approached by a firefighter. "He said, 'There are a number of bodies on the 11th floor and we need to know what numbers are on that floor,'" said Brown.

"I just remember the circumstances in which he was asking those questions. I knew it was urgent and I knew it had to be accurate."

Black was on the scene on the night of the fire. He arrived at about 3am and left at about 9am to attend a Gold Command meeting at Kensington and Chelsea town hall.

He was supposed to help coordinate the response.

But when he could have been forwarding the lists of those inside to the

appropriate authorities, he was sending emails to the TMO management team.

He warned there would be "questions about the cladding and spec. Questions about how [the fire] spread."

Compliance

"We need to pull some of this together pretty fast in terms of health and safety compliance. We need all the information about the refurbishment as this will be a primary focus."

When asked at the inquiry if he had any conversations with the London Fire Brigade on the night of the fire, Black said, "Not as far as I recall."

A TMO member of staff said Black had told him at 7am he had not received the list of residents.

Barrister for the inquiry Richard Millett QC asked Black if he remembered being told that.

Millet also asked, "Do you recall ever, during the course of the night, making any call to anybody within your organisation seeking a list of residents of this building?"

Black replied both times that he didn't remember.

CAMPAIGNS

Protest in Clapham

THE CLAPHAM Park estate in south London is under threat from developers. Residents could be forced to move out as soon as January next year.

There are currently some 2,000 homes on the estate managed by the Metropolitan Thames Valley housing association.

The proposed redevelopment would create 4,080 homes with 53 percent of them "affordable".

This includes homes for rent at 80 percent of market rates as well as shared ownership.

Residents and their supporters were set to protest this Thursday outside Metropolitan's head office—99 New Park Road, SW2 4AX—at 10am.

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Massacre in Ballymurphy at the hands of the British state

After decades of campaigning a new inquest into the killings has begun. Simon Basketter says British attempts to crush Catholic resistance in Northern Ireland lay behind the massacre

ELEVEN PEOPLE were murdered—ten were shot and one had a heart attack—in the Ballymurphy Massacre.

British soldiers did this killing on the first night of internment—where people could be locked up indefinitely without trial.

At 5am on 9 August 1971 around 600 soldiers of the Parachute Regiment (Paras) entered the Ballymurphy estate in Belfast from different directions.

They began booting in doors, and dragging men from their beds.

At the same time families were fleeing their homes in nearby Springfield Park in Ballymurphy as they came under attack from Loyalist mobs. People were being rounded up and shot at during a pogrom.

Joan Connolly was shot in the face, hand, shoulder and thigh and lay on waste ground for six hours, bleeding to death.

Protest

Briege, Joan's daughter, said, "Kids aged between 12 and 16 were throwing stones outside in protest at their daddies, brothers and friends being kept."

"Me and my friend went up to see what was going on. My mammy came to take me home but we wanted to stay."

As Briege moved away, the army fired CS gas and she lost sight of her mam.

Soldiers picked up five men from near Joan's corpse. Their statements said, "We left the woman because she was already dead."

The murders were all brutally carried out. Noel Phillips was wounded so a soldier went up to him and executed him by shooting him



BRITISH TROOPS remove barricades, August 1971

once behind each ear with a hand gun. Soldiers carried out a mock execution of the wounded Pat McCarthy placing an unloaded gun in his mouth and pulling the trigger. Pat died from a heart attack.

The army claims they only opened fire after they were shot at by republican paramilitaries.

There is no evidence beyond the soldiers for this. The army immediately released statements describing

the victims as gunmen and terrorists. Those claims have never been withdrawn.

Sir Michael Jackson, former head of the British Army, wrote, "The Battalion fought a fierce gun-battle with an estimated 20 gunmen. I was just around the corner, dealing with the press."

Three soldiers said they had killed Joan. One said she had a pistol, another said she had a rifle and was

crawling along on her stomach like a sniper.

The third said she was sitting in the middle of a field, yards from the army base, with a machine gun.

"She wasn't Annie Oakley," said Briege. "She was my mammy who loved and looked after us all, didn't drink but liked a cigarette and a game of bingo."

Joan's family were offered £250 compensation after her murder.

An Inquest boycotted by soldiers

AS THE new inquest began many of the victims' families spoke out. John Teggart, whose father Daniel was one of those killed, said, "The determination of the families to get to the truth has brought us here."

"We think after 47 years we are going to get some form of truth."

The court has heard that a large number of records and witness statements taken after the massacre are now missing.

British soldiers are boycotting the inquest.

Representing

Barry McDonald, a barrister representing some victims' families, said that at least 12 soldiers fired 117 shots.

But none has provided a statement. "The soldiers who fired are simply refusing to co-operate with this inquest and are boycotting it," he said.

This year former members of the Loyalist paramilitary Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF) claimed that they were involved.

Tommy West, one of their members, is now dead. And this may be an attempt to divert from the role of the army.

But Britain did use Loyalist death squads during the conflict.

The probe into the deaths of Francis Quinn, Father Hugh Mullan, Noel Phillips, Joan Connolly, Daniel Teggart, Joseph Murphy, Edward Doherty, John Laverty, Joseph Corr and John McKerr, is set to last four months.

Brutal regime of imprisonment without trial or court

INTERNMENT without trial meant people could be locked up indefinitely without being charged and without ever going to court. In the first night soldiers dragged 342 men off at gunpoint.

It was used to try and smash resistance by the Catholic minority angry at being treated as second-class citizens.

A secret British Army document from September 1971 said internment was a "success".

It describes how, in one night following the introduction of

internment, 300 Catholic homes were destroyed "to prevent the houses being occupied by Catholics".

Internment had the opposite effect to that intended. Up to 30,000 households joined a rent and rates strike against internment.

Trade unionists in Tyrone organised a march against internment on Christmas Day 1971, joined by 4,000 people.

On 30 January 1972 thousands gathered in Derry for a peaceful march against internment. The Paras killed 14 people on



British troops in Belfast, 1972

what became known as Bloody Sunday.

It was four decades before the Saville Inquiry concluded that all the victims of the Bloody Sunday killings were innocent.

But the Inquiry also rejected any suggestion that the Paras were sent to Derry knowing what they were likely to do.

It effectively said Bloody Sunday was not the fault of the government or the Ministry of Defence.

What happened in Ballymurphy shows that to be a nonsense.

IN BRIEF

Stop racist division in Middlesbrough

CAMPAIGNERS in Middlesbrough were set to protest on Saturday against a group linked to the far right called Justice for Women and Children.

The group tries to whip up racism by blaming Muslim and Asian men for abuse.

The anti-racist counter-protest is called by Stand Up To Racism Teesside and Stand Up To Racism North East.

●Justice for Survivors, Don't Let the Racists Divide Us—assemble 11.30am, Saturday 24 November, outside Debenhams, Middlesbrough town centre

Bosses get angry reaction over pay

WORKERS AT the Johnson Matthey speciality chemicals company are balloting for strikes over pay.

More than 150 Unite union members at the Clitheroe plant in Lancashire will vote after bosses offered a 2.75 percent pay increase.

Strikes by cable workers suspended

STRIKES AT Prysmian Cable Company in Eastleigh, Hampshire, were suspended for talks last week.

The Unite union members struck for eleven days in September, October and November for an improvement to bosses' below-inflation pay award.

Bosses offered workers a pay increase of just 2 percent.

Protest demands end to outsourcing

WORKERS AT the University of London were set to protest as Socialist Worker went to press on Tuesday.

It coincides with the university's Foundation Day, when honorary degrees are handed out by university chancellor Princess Anne.

Strike gets result on jobs in Bradford

WORKERS AT Bradford university have pushed bosses back over plans to impose compulsory redundancies.

Unison union members there struck for four days against an initial threat of up to 200 compulsory redundancies.

Unison branch secretary Patrick told Socialist Worker, "It now looks like there will be zero compulsory redundancies."

"We can only assume the reason they have changed their minds is our industrial action."

But Patrick added that several workers have taken voluntary redundancy or are still "at risk". "This is one small win in a much larger campaign," he said. "Our campaign is far from over."

MANUFACTURING

Crane workers aim higher than bosses' 3% pay offer

WORKERS AT Street Crane in Chapel en le Frith, Derbyshire, struck on Monday and Tuesday.

The Unite union members planned two further 48-hour walkouts and strikers were set to vote on a new offer as Socialist Worker went to press on Tuesday.

Bosses are still offering a 3 percent pay increase, but have backed off from

strings attached to the deal, including axing a tea break and delaying a pay review date. They've also offered a £300 lump sum.

The dispute is at a crucial point and strikers need financial support if they vote to sustain the action as Christmas approaches.

Jeannie Robinson

●Rush donations to shaun.lee@uniteunion.org



Solidarity on the picket line outside the Street Crane company

SCHOOLS

Dinner ladies serve up another strike for jobs

by **GEORGE ARTHUR**

DINNER LADIES and teaching assistants at Ladywood Primary school in Grimethorpe returned to the picket line last Wednesday after negotiations broke down.

The Unison union members in the South Yorkshire town are now back on indefinite strike after a five-day pause the week before.

They are fighting the head teacher's decision to make all nine dinner ladies redundant at Christmas.



SCHOOL STRIKERS are disappointed with the Labour council

Picket

Supporters turned out for a solidarity picket organised by Barnsley trades council on Monday.

They included members of Barnsley Save Our NHS and Anne Scargill, who brought the Grimethorpe Women Against Pit Closures (WAPC) banner.

She was a leading figure in WAPC during the 1984-85 Miners' Strike.

One of the pickets said, "We've had good support from

parents because they know our jobs are for looking after their children.

"BBC Radio Sheffield came along on Friday afternoon and interviewed parents waiting for children to come out of school.

"The reporter told us that all those that were interviewed supported us."

Ladywood is a local authority school and workers are disappointed that the Labour-run council has not put pressure on the head to settle

the dispute without job losses.

They have decided to lobby the next Barnsley council meeting on Thursday of next week.

Workers will protest outside the town hall from 9.30am until the council meeting starts at 10.30am.

They will then hold a demonstration through Barnsley.

●Send solidarity messages to branchoffice@unisonbarnsleylg.org

ACADEMISATION

Labour council threatens legal action against strike

THE NEU union withdrew planned strikes at The John Roan school in Greenwich, south east London, after the Labour-run council threatened legal action against the union.

This is a serious attack and the union must resist it.

NEU union members had been set to strike on Thursday of this week, and on Tuesday and Thursday of next week.

They have held several successful strikes against a plan to turn the school into an academy run by the UST chain.

Academy

Teachers and supporters were set to protest outside the school on Thursday before going into work.

NEU member Andy told Socialist Worker, "We've basically been told if you don't academise with us, you'll get something much worse."

"But we don't need UST to improve things."

A Greenwich council meeting last week deferred a vote on transferring the school to UST.

School workers, parents

and others had held a protest outside the meeting demanding the academy plan be dropped.

The retreat shows that fighting back can have an impact.

●Andy is a pseudonym.

Join the teachers' protest Thurs, 22 Nov, 7.45am, Westcombe Park Rd, SE3 7QR. Send messages of support to johnroannut@gmail.com and sign the petition against forced academies at bit.ly/AcademiesPetition

■ANTI-academy campaigners in Newham, east London, plan to lobby the council on Monday 10 December.

The lobby will call on councillors to fight education cuts.

It takes place from 6pm at Stratford Old Town Hall, The Broadway, E15 4BQ

■WORKERS AT Sherington primary school in south east London were set to strike on Thursday of next week to stop their school becoming an academy.

The GMB and NEU union members have five further strike days planned.

TRANSPORT

Northern and South Western rail workers keep up the fight for safety on the tracks

RMT UNION members on Northern Rail and South Western Railways walked out last Saturday in their long-running fight for safety.

They are fighting against the introduction of more driver only operation (DOO) services.

Bosses want to scrap the guarantee of a second safety-critical member of staff on board all trains.

Workers have been fighting for three years

across six networks to stop the rollout of DOO operations and for a safe and accessible transport system.

Workers on Northern Rail are set to strike every Saturday until the end of the year.

And South Western Railway workers are planning one more walkout on Saturday.

■RMT UNION rep Ben Frederick has been reinstated

after the union began a ballot for strikes.

Ben is a health and safety rep at Paddington depot in west London.

Great Western Railway bosses suspended him following an allegation that he had assaulted a member of the public.

But the RMT said CCTV evidence shows that the train guard was actually the victim of an assault and racist abuse.

COLLEGES

Boss loses confidence vote

A COLLEGE principal resigned last week following an overwhelming vote of no confidence in him by workers.

A report by the Further Education Commissioner had also highlighted serious failings by City College Plymouth principal Garry Phillips at his previous college.

Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College had a surplus when Phillips arrived.

Under his leadership it moved to a deficit of £8 million in 2016/17.

Yet he grabbed a 31 percent pay rise the same year, making

him the fifth highest paid principal in the country.

■UCU UNION members at six colleges are set to strike over pay next Wednesday and Thursday.

They are Bath, Bradford, New College Swindon, Petroc, Croydon and Lambeth.

Some 85 percent voted for strikes in a ballot of 107 colleges, but most colleges didn't reach the 50 percent threshold for turnouts.

The UCU plans to reballot branches that achieved a turnout of 35 percent or more.

ROYAL MAIL

Four-day unofficial walkout gets results

by NICK CLARK

POSTAL WORKERS at a Royal Mail delivery office in Hamilton, near Glasgow, staged a four-day unofficial strike over bosses' bullying and harassment.

They walked out without a ballot last Thursday. They returned on Tuesday this week "after winning a settlement which satisfies the demands of the members", said their CWU union.

Workers struck to defend one of their colleagues and each other from bullying.

The union's Glasgow and District Amal branch said workers had been presented with an agreement to return to work on Saturday morning.

But they voted to stay out. They returned after a meeting with regional and national union officials on Monday.

Postal workers walked out at a delivery office in Tarporley—a village in Cheshire—on Thursday in defence of a colleague.

The strikes are the latest in a string of unofficial walkouts by Royal Mail workers at delivery offices across Britain over bullying and



HAMILTON STRIKERS stood firm

PICTURE: @UNISONSW/TWITTER

harassment. The walkout in Hamilton is the first to last beyond a day in over a year.

Managers are increasingly pressuring workers to take on extra workloads.

A deal between the CWU and Royal Mail bosses signed earlier this year was supposed to put a stop to management bullying.

But the growing number of walkouts is a sign that despite this workers are getting increasingly fed up.

Speaking at a briefing of CWU representatives last Thursday, CWU deputy general secretary Terry Pullinger said, "This union has to make sure that we have the best possible representation—that we challenge bullying in the workplace."

Several postal workers responded to news that workers in Hamilton were staying out with messages of solidarity. One said, "This is something that needs to be

resolved nationally. We sort it nationally or walk away."

Another asked, "Isn't it time we put this bullying to bed instead of leaving members to suffer this daily?"

■ **THE CWU union has called for a day of protests on 1 December in defence of Post Offices facing privatisation.**

It follows an announcement that 74 major Post Offices are to be franchised out to WHSmith.

OUTSOURCING

Anger at new sell-off move

CWU UNION reps at BT Facilities Services were called to an emergency briefing meeting this week after bosses announced plans to outsource the company.

The union has pledged to fight the move which it says poses huge risks to the terms, conditions and job security of more than 1,700 workers.

CWU deputy general secretary Andy Kerr said, "We will not sit back and watch our members' jobs and livelihoods being sold off."

The 1,700 affected include around 770 housekeepers (cleaners) and grounds maintenance staff, nearly 700 general technicians and engineers and 210 security officers.

CWU assistant secretary Sally Bridge said, "We will be campaigning vigorously against the outsourcing of Facilities Services."

CLEANERS

No justice at the ministry

CLEANERS AT the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) were set to demonstrate outside a private drinks reception with Tory justice minister David Gauke on Monday.

But St James's Conservatives cancelled the £35-a-ticket event, presumably after news of the protest reached them.

Cleaners and security workers at the ministry are on a poverty wage of between £7.83 and £9 an hour.

They have been fighting for an increase to the London Living Wage of £10.55 per hour for nearly a year.

In addition, as outsourced workers they are treated as a second class workforce and are only entitled to the statutory minimum terms and conditions.

The MoJ has backed down from its promise to meet workers.

The workers are organising for more strikes.

CONSTRUCTION



Strikers gathered outside the site

Construction walkout at Ferrybridge over safety

HUNDREDS OF construction workers at Ferrybridge power station in West Yorkshire have struck over safety.

The workers at the plant said a fire safety drill proved to be inadequate and many workers could not hear the alarm.

They believed there was a safety risk and walked off the site.

They were told the alarms would be replaced and they were asked to go back to work. But they were told they would not be paid for the remainder of the day.

According to workers on site there have been months of complaining about not hearing fire alarms on tests.

HZI Management now says the alarm system was adequate. But bosses have also added another eight sirens — taking the number from four to twelve.

One worker told Socialist

Worker, "They then asked us to return to site to test the system and evacuate the site."

"We told them we wanted guarantees that we were going to be paid for the stand down time we had so far."

"They flat out refused saying we broke the national agreement by leaving the site."

"We are saying that they broke the national agreement by failing to upgrade the alarm system as the job progressed."

"Four sirens may have been adequate when the job began with just steel work in place but as the job grew it needed more coverage."

Unite National official Bernard McAuley addressed the workers on Monday morning.

He said management was bringing in an independent safety adviser and recommended a return to work. The workers voted to stay out.

UNISON

Defend Karen Reissmann

UNISON UNION members are getting behind the campaign to defend leading health worker Karen Reissmann.

Over 450 people have signed a statement calling on Unison's leadership to reinstate Karen to her democratically-elected union positions.

She was an outspoken critic of the NHS pay deal that left many health workers feeling short-changed.

The statement said, "We do not know if these views and her suspension are linked, but would have grave concerns if they were."

The NHS pay deal was missold by the leaderships of 13 health unions.

The statement calls on people to support Karen's reinstatement "whatever our own personal view of the NHS pay deal".

Workers should be able to speak out, even if this sometimes goes against what union leaders are thinking.

If the Unison leadership gets away with victimising Karen, they will use it

as a pretext to further clamp down on dissent, the left and any grassroots initiative.

Activists should take the statement around their branches and workplaces.

● To sign the statement go to bit.ly/ReinstateKarenReissmann and go to Facebook page Reinstate Karen Reissmann

■ **HEALTH** workers in Northern Ireland could strike over pay.

The Royal College of Nursing launched an indicative ballot for industrial action last Monday.

And the Unison and Nipsa unions could also ballot their members in the Northern Ireland Health and Social Care service.

Health worker Karen Reissmann said the possibility of strikes showed the depth of people's anger.

"It's a sign of the times of how frustrated people are," she told Socialist Worker. "There is the possibility of joint action, though neither union should hold back or wait for the other."



Karen Reissmann

PAUL JONSON

Free speech on Palestine

SUPPORTERS of Paul Jonson—a Dudley council worker reportedly suspended from work after calling Israel racist—have launched a statement in his defence.

Paul was reportedly suspended by Dudley council for a Facebook post stating "Stand up for Palestine—Israel is a racist endeavour".

The post also advertised a lobby outside the surgery of Labour MP Ian Austin.

The Campaign Against Antisemitism complained to the council and called for him to be sacked.

The statement says, "Paul is a long-standing anti-racist activist and campaigner against antisemitism and all forms of racism."

"Whatever one's views on Israel or the nature of the Israeli state and its founding, there is nothing antisemitic about this statement."

"Paul's suspension is an attack on every trade unionist's right to engage in political and human rights' campaigns outside work."

Supporters have called another lobby outside Austin's next surgery on Friday 7 December.

● Sign the support statement at bit.ly/ReinstatePaulJ. Go to Facebook event page Protest Free Speech on Israel, lobby Ian Austin MP

■ **STUDENTS** AT two universities protested against surprise visits by Israeli ambassador Mark Regev last week.

Protests took place at King's College London and the University of Leeds.

The Palestine Solidarity Campaign has called for a national "Apartheid off Campus" day of action at universities for Thursday of next week. Go to bit.ly/Students4Palestine

Care workers keep up fight

Homecare workers at Birmingham City Council are set for a five-day strike. More solidarity from other workers can help them to win, says **Sarah Bates**

BIRMINGHAM care workers are preparing for another big strike beginning on Sunday of this week.

Some 280 members of the home enablement team are set to strike for another five days.

They are fighting redundancies and brutal cuts to their hours that workers fear will leave them jobless and the service open for privatisation.

By Thursday next week the Unison union members will have taken 46 days of strikes since January.

And they voted overwhelmingly at a members' meeting last week to continue the action.

Solidarity group Support the Birmingham Homecare Workers said, "In 2010 in Birmingham we had 1,100 homecare assistants. In 2018 we have 280.

"This is the reality of Tory austerity and it has to stop.

"We need our Labour council to stand by our side and fight for proper funding for social care and stop the race to the bottom."

Labour-run Birmingham City Council (BCC) has unleashed a string of attacks on the home enablement service.

Vital

This is a vital council-run service that allows people to stay in their own homes following discharge from hospital.

The council says it wants to implement £2 million of "efficiency savings". These vicious cuts will leave workers struggling to survive.

The council has already slashed the workforce by 48 percent in the last year, and now tenders out additional work to private care firms.

It wants to reduce most workers to part-time hours, and get rid of the equivalent of 40 full-time jobs. Workers



CARE STRIKERS marching in Birmingham

PICTURE GEOFF DEXTER

would see at least £400 a month slashed from their wages, and some would see up to £800 a month gone.

This will have a huge impact on a workforce of

predominately low-paid women, many who have caring responsibilities outside of work.

Strikers have been leafletting key councillors

asking people if they think care-cutting councillors have Labour values.

BCC says it needs to save cash, but not everyone at the council is feeling the pinch.

Dawn Baxendale, BCC chief executive, is paid at least £173,995 a year. And interim corporate director of adult social care and health Graeme Betts earns at least £130,090.

A Labour council should reject Tory austerity, fight for its workers and stop paying top executives huge sums of money.

The Birmingham strikers can still win, and save a much-needed social service from privatisation and destruction.

Profile

Some 11 months into the strikes, it is a disservice to miss any opportunity to raise the profile of the dispute.

That's why it's good that strikers led the protest at the Tory party conference in September.

And it's important that they joined the national demonstration against racism and fascism last week.

Actions like that mean strikers can talk to other activists, raise money and get media attention for their struggle.

But still more could be done to help them win. Unison nationally needs to use every weapon it has to push forward to victory.

This could include solidarity walkouts.

It could also involve smaller scale actions such as "solidarity selfies" with other council workers, or organising a national speaking tour of strikers.

Trade unionists should arrange to collect for the dispute hardship fund in their workplaces, and arrange to have a striker speak at a meeting.

A victory for the inspirational Birmingham home care strikers would be a victory for everyone fighting austerity.

Donate to the strike fund at bit.ly/BrumStrikeFund

KINGSLEY BURRELL

Cops face misconduct hearing

A MISCONDUCT hearing for three police officers involved in events leading to the death of Kingsley Burrell in 2011 began on Monday.

Paul Adey, Mark Fannon and Paul Greenfield are alleged to have used unnecessary force in restraining Kingsley and to have lied about the events leading to his death.

If the allegations are proven, the charges will amount to gross misconduct.

Kingsley was detained by police under the Mental Health Act on 27 March 2011. He was forcibly restrained for four hours and 15 minutes, and then taken to hospital.

Police were called to the hospital three days later, where they restrained Kingsley before transporting him to another unit.

In transit an ambulance worker placed a blanket over Kingsley's head and Kingsley was beaten.

Kingsley was left on his own in a locked room for about 28 minutes.

Discovered

Eventually medical staff noticed he wasn't moving and discovered he had suffered a heart attack. He died the next day.

At a previous criminal trial Adey, Fannon and Greenfield were tried for perjury relating to their accounts of events leading to Kingsley's death. They were found not guilty in October last year.

An inquest in May 2015 found that police had lied in relation to his death.

Kingsley's family have had indignities heaped upon them.

Three post-mortems were carried out on Kingsley's body, which his family didn't get back for 17 months.

They have faced obstructions at every step in their fight to find out what happened to Kingsley and for justice.

For solidarity details go to [Justice4Kingsley](https://www.facebook.com/Justice4Kingsley) on Facebook